



## Access Rocky



Beautiful Rocky Mountain National Park has many accessible facilities for visitors, including visitor centers, scenic overlooks, self-guided trails, campgrounds, some picnic areas, and even a backcountry campsite. This spectacular high-elevation park ranges in altitude from the lowest valleys at about 7,700 feet to the summit of the highest mountain - Longs Peak - at 14,259 feet; scenic Trail Ridge Road crests at 12,183 feet as it crosses the park and the Continental Divide.

## Fees and Passes

The America the Beautiful Access Pass is a free lifetime pass for US citizens and permanent residents who have been medically determined to have a permanent disability that severely limits one or more major life activities. It provides access to recreation areas managed by the National Park Service, US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Reclamation. Passes can be obtained at any park entrance station or by mail from the US Geologic Survey; visit <http://store.usgs.gov/pass/access.html>

Holders of America the Beautiful Access Passes and Golden Access Passes are entitled to 50% discounts on camping fees for sites occupied by the passholders. Provide the pass number to the reservation company when the reservation is made.

# Park Shuttle Buses

All of the Rocky Mountain National Park free summer shuttle buses are accessible and can accommodate wheelchairs. Shuttle buses operate only along Bear Lake Road, plus an express Hiker Shuttle bus that operates between the Estes Park Fairgrounds Park-n-Ride and the park's shuttle bus hub on Bear Lake Road.

# Service Animals

Service animals that have been individually trained to perform specific tasks for the benefit of persons with disabilities are allowed in the park. A service animal that is allowed in park facilities, trails, etc., must be doing so in the service of a disabled person.

Emotional support (“therapy animals”) are not service animals under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), but are pets, and may not access trails or other non-motorized areas, nor park buildings.

Service dogs-in-training are not service animals under ADA, but are considered pets.

Pets are prohibited in all areas of Rocky Mountain National Park not accessible by motor vehicles, including all trails and meadows.

## Resources

The National Park Service website on accessibility:  
[http://www.nps.gov/pub\\_aff/access/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/pub_aff/access/index.htm)

The Disabled Traveler's Companion website has detailed information about accessible facilities in the park: <http://www.tdtcompanion.com/NPS/Rocky/>

Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD):  
970-586-1319

The park film is captioned for hearing impaired visitors at Beaver Meadows and Kawuneeche visitor centers, and features audio description for the visually impaired at Beaver Meadows Visitor Center.

Park staff can arrange for a sign language interpreter; since this park is in a rural area, please allow two weeks. Call 970-586-1206.

# Cell Phones

Do not rely on cell phones in Rocky Mountain National Park. Many locations in this rugged park have no service.

# Wheelchair Access

Be advised that accessible park trails contain hazards including loose gravel, uneven surfaces, rocks, tree roots, and steep areas.

The following park trails are accessible for non-motorized wheelchairs

|                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Bear Lake Trail     | Lily Lake Trail         |
| Beaver Boardwalk    | Holzwarth Historic Site |
| Coyote Valley Trail | Sprague Lake Trail      |

Motorized wheelchairs and Electric Personal Assistance Mobility Devices (EPAMD), which are two-wheeled, electrically-propelled human transport devices including Segways™, are permitted in the following areas when being operated as an assistance device by persons with mobility disabilities:

- Sidewalks and parking areas
- Roads closed to motor vehicles unless otherwise posted
- The following accessible park trails

Coyote Valley Trail  
Lily Lake Trail  
Holzwarth Historic Site Access Road  
Sprague Lake Trail

Persons without a disability are not authorized to use a motorized wheelchair or EPAMD in these designated areas.

Use of EPAMDs on park trail systems, other than those accessible trails listed above, is prohibited because of increased potential for injury to visitors, damage to natural resources, increased hazard of surprising wildlife, and hazards to EPAMD operators in steep, loose, or slippery conditions that are consistently encountered on park trails.

# Accessible Facilities

## Visitor Centers

All park visitor centers feature bookstores and information desks accessible to wheelchairs.

### **Alpine Visitor Center (11,796 feet)**

ISA-designated parking spaces. No picnic tables. Accessible restrooms (vault toilets) all season and summer (flush) at east end of visitor center. Open Memorial Day weekend through Columbus Day, weather permitting.

### **Beaver Meadows Visitor Center (7,840 feet)**

Open year-round. ISA-designated parking spaces with curb cuts. Accessible restrooms (flush toilets). Picnic tables are not accessible. Lift between floors (750-pound limit). Park film is captioned for hearing impaired and features audio description for the visually impaired. An induction loop is provided in the auditorium for the benefit of hearing aid users.

### **Fall River Visitor Center (8,250 feet)**

ISA-designated parking spaces with curb cuts. Accessible restrooms located in adjacent store via covered walkway (flush toilets). No picnic tables. Elevator between floors (2000-pound weight limit).

### **Kawuneeche Visitor Center (8,720 feet)**

Open year-round. ISA-designated parking spaces with curb cuts. Accessible restrooms (flush toilets). No picnic tables. Auditorium features park film, which is captioned for hearing impaired.

### **Moraine Park Visitor Center (8,140 feet)**

ISA-designated parking spaces with curb cuts. Accessible restrooms (flush toilets). No picnic tables. Lift between floors (500-pound limit). Sitting area.

**Facilities in  
Fall River  
Area**

**Fall River Visitor Center (8,250 feet)**  
ISA-designated parking spaces with curb cuts.  
Accessible restrooms located in adjacent store via covered walkway (flush toilets).  
No picnic tables.  
Elevator between floors (2000-pound weight limit).

**Sheep Lakes**  
ISA-designated parking.  
No restrooms. No picnic tables.  
Information and programs in summer.

**Alluvial Fan (8,610 feet)**  
ISA-designated parking at East and West Alluvial Fan.  
Accessible restrooms at West Alluvial Fan (vault toilets).  
West Alluvial Fan picnic tables are accessible.  
Trail is paved but has a relatively steep grade.

**Endovalley Picnic Area (8,660 feet)**  
No ISA-designated parking.  
Accessible restrooms (vault toilets).  
Accessible picnic tables.  
Most picnic sites have fire grates; three are raised.  
Road to Endovalley is not open in winter.

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**Along Trail  
Ridge Road  
(listed east  
to west)**

**Beaver Boardwalk**  
No ISA-designated parking or curb cuts.  
No accessible restrooms. No picnic tables.  
1/8-mile boardwalk has moderately steep grade.

**Hidden Valley (9,240 feet)**  
ISA-designated parking.  
Accessible restrooms (flush toilets).  
Covered picnic pavilion; accessible picnic tables.  
400 feet of the 3200-foot paved nature trail is accessible.

**Many Parks Curve Overlook (9,640 feet)**  
No ISA-designated parking.  
No restrooms. No picnic tables.  
Cross Trail Ridge Road from the west parking lot to the moderately-accessible overlook.  
The east side of Trail Ridge Road is plowed to this overlook in winter.

### **Rainbow Curve Overlook (10,829 feet)**

No ISA-designated parking. Curb cut and sidewalk make area moderately accessible.

Accessible restrooms (vault toilets).

No picnic tables.

### **Forest Canyon Overlook (11,716 feet)**

ISA-designated parking.

No restrooms. No picnic tables.

Paved trail to platform at overlook is uneven and steep in places and considered marginally accessible.

### **Rock Cut Overlook & Tundra Communities Trail (Rock Cut 12,310 feet; trail gains 260 feet)**

ISA-designated parking with curb cuts to sidewalk.

Accessible restrooms (vault toilets).

No picnic tables.

The steep, uneven, ½-mile paved trail is marginally accessible.

### **Lava Cliffs Overlook (12,000 feet)**

No ISA-designated parking spaces.

No restrooms. No picnic tables.

### **Gore Range Overlook (12,010 feet)**

No ISA-designated parking spaces.

No restrooms. No picnic tables.

### **Alpine Visitor Center (11,796 feet)**

ISA-designated parking spaces. No picnic tables.

Accessible restrooms (vault toilets) all season and summer (flush) at east end of visitor center.

Open Memorial Day weekend through Columbus Day, weather permitting. Visitor Center information desk is accessible to wheelchairs.

### **Medicine Bow Curve Overlook (11,660 feet)**

No ISA-designated parking.

No restrooms. No picnic tables.

### **Milner Pass - Continental Divide (10,758 feet)**

ISA-designated parking.

Accessible restrooms (vault toilets).

No picnic tables.

**Lake Irene (10,748 feet)**

ISA-designated parking.

Accessible restrooms (vault toilets).

Accessible picnic tables.

Trail to Lake Irene is steep and has steps.

**Farview Curve (10,120 feet)**

No ISA-designated parking.

No restrooms. No picnic tables.

**Colorado River Trailhead (8,990 feet)**

ISA-designated parking.

Accessible restrooms (vault toilets).

Picnic tables are marginally accessible.

Trails are not accessible.

The west side of Trail Ridge Road is plowed to this point in winter.

**Timber Lake Trailhead (9,000 feet)**

ISA-designated parking.

Accessible restrooms (vault toilets).

Picnic tables not accessible. Trail is not accessible.

**Holzwarth Historic Site (8,884 feet)**

ISA-designated parking but parking lot is unpaved.

Accessible restrooms (vault toilets).

Picnic tables not accessible.

Wheelchair and motorized wheelchair-accessible ½-mile gravel path to historic site is steep in places.

In summer a staff-operated golf cart can take visitors to the site.

Interiors of historic structures are not wheelchair-accessible.

Walkways around the several buildings are marginally accessible.

**Bowen-Baker Gulch Trailhead (8,864 feet)**

ISA-designated parking.

Accessible restrooms (vault toilets).

Picnic tables are not accessible.

## Coyote Valley Trail (8,840 feet)

ISA-designated parking.

Accessible restrooms (vault toilets).

Accessible picnic tables.

Wheelchair and motorized wheelchair-accessible 1-mile level-grade packed gravel trail; use of gloves helpful.

## Harbison Meadows (8,688 feet)

ISA-designated parking. No restrooms.

The 2 accessible picnic tables are in a covered pavilion.

Packed gravel path from parking area to picnic area is sloped.

# Accessible Trails

Be advised that accessible park trails contain hazards including loose gravel, uneven surfaces, rocks, tree roots, and steep areas.

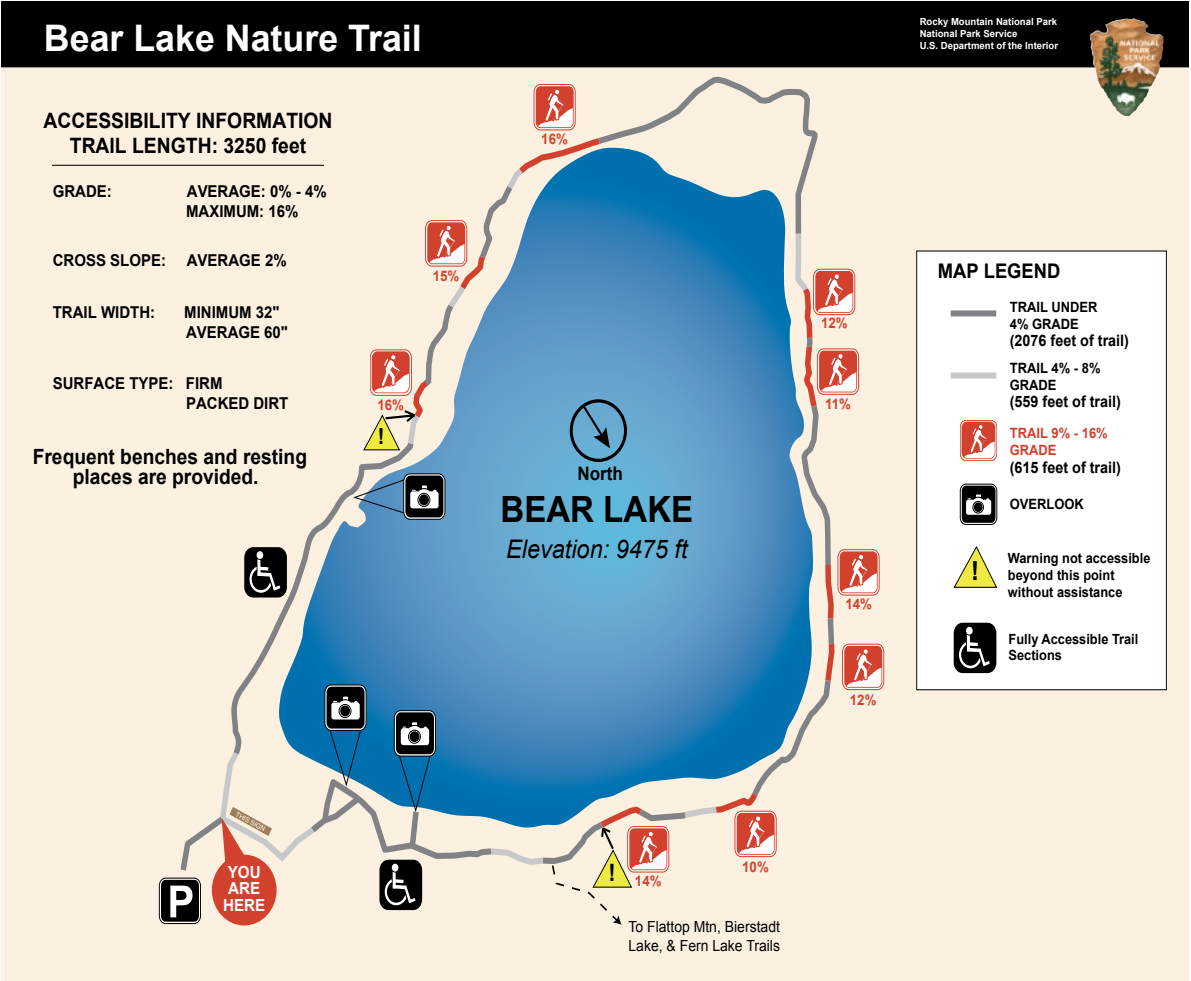
## Bear Lake (9,475 feet)

ISA-designated parking.

Accessible restrooms.

No picnic tables.

Bear Lake is about 200 yards from the parking area. ½-mile partially wheelchair-accessible packed gravel trail circles Bear Lake. Trail grades exceed 8% in places. The trail on the southwest side of the lake has log “steps;” go counterclockwise to go down these steps or clockwise to go up them; assistance may be needed.





### **Coyote Valley Trail (8,840 feet)**

ISA-designated parking. Accessible picnic tables.  
Accessible restrooms (vault toilets).  
Wheelchair and motorized wheelchair-accessible 1-mile level-grade, packed gravel trail crosses the Colorado River into the Kawuneeche Valley. Use of gloves helpful.

### **Lily Lake (8,880 feet)**

ISA-designated parking. Accessible picnic tables.  
Accessible restrooms (vault toilets).  
Wheelchair and motorized wheelchair-accessible 3/4-mile packed gravel trail circles Lily Lake. Adjoining trails are not accessible.  
Accessible fishing pier.

### **Sprague Lake (8,690 feet)**

ISA-designated parking. Accessible picnic tables.  
Accessible restrooms (summer flush/winter vault).  
Wheelchair and motorized wheelchair-accessible 1/2-mile packed gravel trail circles Sprague Lake.  
Benches and fishing platforms are located along the trail.  
Accessible campsite located near Sprague Lake (see Backcountry Camping section).

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## **Along Bear Lake Road**

### **Hollowell Park (8,300 feet)**

ISA-designated parking.  
Accessible but non-compliant restrooms (vault toilets).  
Accessible picnic tables.  
Mill Creek Basin Trail is not accessible.

### **Tuxedo Park Picnic Area (8,120 feet)**

Currently this area is closed. The area is to be redeveloped into an accessible picnic area with ISA-designated parking and accessible picnic tables.

### **Sprague Lake (8,690 feet)**

ISA-designated parking. Accessible picnic tables.  
Accessible restrooms (summer flush/winter vault).  
Wheelchair and motorized wheelchair-accessible 1/2-mile packed gravel trail circles Sprague Lake.  
Benches and fishing platforms are located along the trail.  
Accessible campsite located near Sprague Lake (see Backcountry Camping section).

### **Bear Lake (9,475 feet)**

ISA-designated parking.

Accessible restrooms.

No picnic tables.

Bear Lake is about 200 yards from the parking area.

½-mile partially wheelchair-accessible packed gravel trail circles Bear Lake. Trail grades exceed 8% in places. The trail on the southwest side of the lake has log “steps;” go counterclockwise to go down these steps or clockwise to go up them; assistance may be needed.

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## **Camping**

There are five drive-in campgrounds in the park, three with accessible campsites. Holders of America the Beautiful Access Passes and Golden Age Passes can camp at a 50% discount.

Summer reservations for Aspenglen, Glacier Basin and Moraine Park Campgrounds can be made up to six months in advance at [recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) or 877-444-6777.

There are no hookups or electrical outlets at any campsites so electrically-powered medical appliances cannot be accommodated in park campgrounds.

### **Aspenglen Campground (8,220 feet)**

ISA-designated parking near amphitheater.

Marginally accessible amphitheater.

Restrooms by amphitheater are marginally accessible (steep grade to restrooms).

Picnic tables not accessible.

No designated accessible campsites.

### **Longs Peak Campground**

No ISA-designated parking.

Restrooms not accessible.

Picnic tables not accessible.

No designated accessible campsites.

**Glacier Basin Campground (8,500 feet)**  
Glacier Basin Campground is closed in 2012.

Four first-come, first-served accessible campsites are located in Loop B. Accessible campsites are set aside for campers with disabilities until 6 p.m. each evening in summer; if not filled by then, other campers can stay in those sites for that night only.

ISA-designated parking by accessible campsites and amphitheater.  
Marginally accessible amphitheater.

Fully accessible restroom adjacent to campsites.  
Accessible picnic tables at accessible campsites.  
Raised fire grates at accessible campsites.

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| Site B33 | Maximum vehicle length 20 feet                     |
| Site B35 | Maximum vehicle length 22 feet (pull-through site) |
| Site B60 | Maximum vehicle length 22 feet                     |
| Site B61 | Maximum vehicle length 35 feet                     |

**Moraine Park Campground**  
Four reservable campsites are located in A Loop.

ISA-designated parking by accessible campsites and amphitheater.  
Fully accessible amphitheater.

Fully accessible restroom adjacent to campsites.  
Accessible picnic tables at accessible campsites.  
Raised fire grates at accessible campsites.

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| Site A39 | Max vehicle length 20 feet, 1 slide-out, 160 feet to restroom, sunny.           |
| Site A40 | Max vehicle length 30 feet, slide-outs both sides, 120 feet to restroom, sunny. |
| Site A41 | Max vehicle length 35 feet, slide-outs both sides, 75 feet to restroom, shady.  |
| Site A42 | Max vehicle length 40 feet, slide-outs both sides, 90 feet to restroom, sunny.  |

## Timber Creek Campground

Two first-come, first-served accessible campsites are located in Loop B. Accessible campsites are set aside for campers with disabilities until 6 p.m. each evening in summer; if not filled by then, other campers can stay in those sites for that night only.

ISA-designated parking by accessible campsites and amphitheater.

Marginally accessible amphitheater.

Fully accessible restroom.

Accessible picnic tables at accessible campsites.

Raised fire grates at accessible campsites.

Site B24 Maximum vehicle length 30 feet.

Site B26 Maximum vehicle length 24 feet.

## Back-country Camping

### Sprague Lake Camp

The park's wheelchair-accessible backcountry campsite is near scenic Sprague Lake. The camp is located one-half mile from the parking area via a fully-accessible packed gravel trail, at about 8,700 feet of elevation. The camp accommodates up to 12 campers including a maximum of five wheelchairs.

The camp is available year-round. Reservations are made with the park's Backcountry Office by mail (1000 US Hwy 36, Estes Park, CO 80517), in person, or by phone (970-586-1242). A party may stay at the campsite a maximum of three consecutive nights. There is a \$20 administrative fee between May 1 and October 31.

This is a rustic backcountry campsite with few facilities. There are no hookups and no electrical outlets for medical appliances. Campers park at Sprague Lake, one-half mile away, where ISA-designated parking is available. All gear, water, and firewood must be packed in. Facilities include accessible picnic tables, a fire grate and charcoal grill, and accessible privy. A water faucet is not provided.